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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Venkatachalam Narayanaswamy et al.  
Title: INERT-GAS BASED LEAVENED DOUGH SYSTEM

Docket No.: 869.005US1  
Filed: November 6, 2000  
Examiner: Thuy Lien Tran

Serial No.: 09/707184  
Due Date: January 21, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 1761

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- ☒ A return postcard.
- ☒ Amendment and Response (4 Pages).
- ☒ Clean Version of Pending Claims (3 pgs.).

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2003.

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S/N 09/707,184

PATENT

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

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Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on October 21, 2002. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claims 1, 7, 27 and 31. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

Sub 1. (Amended) A ready-to-use dough article, comprising:  
a substantially gas-impermeable container;  
a dough disposed within the container, comprising:  
flour and sugar wherein the ratio of sugar to flour is in a range of about 0.0 to 0.75 to 1,  
wherein the dough is storable without refrigeration.

7. (Amended) The dough article of claim 1 wherein the dough is [substantially] free of sugar.